

## Protect your Family now!

- Now that you know how dangerous meningococcal disease is, take action right away. Ask your child's health-care provider to schedule a vaccination appointment
- Invasive Meningococcal Meningitis (IMD) may rapidly progress to death, even in those who receive early antibiotic treatment<sup>4</sup>

Ask your Doctor for more information about meningitis prevention



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### References:


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5. <http://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/about/risk-factors.html> (Last accessed on March 22, 2017)
6. CDC Vaccine Information Statement on Meningococcal Vaccines
7. <https://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/clinical-info.html> (Last accessed on March 22, 2017)
8. <https://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/about/prevention.html> (Last accessed on March 22, 2017)

SAY NO TO CORRUPTION

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# Invasive Meningococcal Disease can take a child's life in just 24 hours<sup>1</sup>

## You can prevent it. Make vaccination a priority.



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# What is Meningococcal Meningitis?

- Meningococcal meningitis is a bacterial form of meningitis caused by *Neisseria meningitidis*, a serious infection of the meninges that affects the brain membrane.<sup>2</sup>
- The onset of Meningococcal disease is rapid and can be fatal within 24 hours even when the best healthcare is available.<sup>1</sup>
- Meningococcal disease can be difficult to recognize, especially in its early stages because the features that appear earliest were common to many self-limiting viral illnesses. The symptoms that appear in the first 4-8 hours include, fever, headache, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting and sore throat<sup>3</sup>
- Classic features of Meningococcal meningitis develop later in 13-22 hours<sup>3</sup>
- Meningococcal disease may rapidly progress to death even in those who receive early antibiotic treatment.<sup>4</sup>
- Even when the disease is diagnosed early and adequate treatment is started, 5% to 10% of patients die, typically within 24 to 48 hours after the onset of symptoms.<sup>2</sup>
- Many of the people who survive meningococcal meningitis can be left with serious medical problems that may include:<sup>4</sup>

- Hearing loss
- Neurologic disability
- Loss of limb



## Who's at Risk for Meningitis?

- Meningococcal disease is more commonly diagnosed among infants, adolescents and young adults.<sup>5</sup>
- There are certain diseases, medications and surgical procedures that put people at increased risk of meningococcal disease, such as not having a spleen.<sup>5</sup>
- People living in closed settings (e.g. dormitory; military etc.)<sup>2,5,6,7</sup>
- Travelers to the meningitis belt in Sub-Saharan Africa may be at risk for meningococcal disease, particularly during the dry season.<sup>5</sup>

## How Meningococcal Disease Spreads?

- Anyone can get meningococcal disease.<sup>6</sup>
- The disease is transmitted from person-to-person through droplets of respiratory or throat secretions from carriers.<sup>2</sup>

Close and prolonged contact such as<sup>2</sup>

- ▶ Sharing eating or drinking utensils with an infected person
- ▶ Sneezing or coughing on someone
- ▶ Living in close quarters (such as a dormitory)
- ▶ Kissing

## How to Prevent the Disease?

- You can't watch your children every minute of every day. But you can help protect them from the meningococcal disease (which includes meningitis) by getting them vaccinated.
- Vaccination is recommended to protect against meningococcal disease.<sup>8</sup>
- Simply talk to your child's healthcare provider about the importance of vaccination.
- If you ever suspect that your child has Meningitis, contact emergency services right away where he or she can be evaluated and receive prompt medical care